

REMARKS

A. 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. Bielski et al. and Yoshiyuki

In the Office Action of February 10, 2004, claims 1, 2 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of Bielski et al. and Yoshiyuki. Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 have been canceled and so the rejection has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

2. Bielski et al., Yoshiyuki and Potega

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of Bielski et al., Yoshiyuki and Potega. Claim 3 has been canceled and so the rejection has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

3. Bielski et al., Yoshiyuki and Hoon

Claims 7-11, 13 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of Bielski et al., Yoshiyuki and Hoon. Claims 7-11, 13 and 21 have been canceled and so the rejection has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

B. Claims 14-20

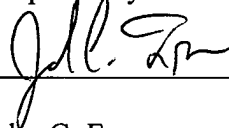
Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 14-20 have been indicated to be allowed. It is noted that the Office Action contains a statement containing reasons for allowance of claims 14-20. Applicant traverses the statement in that there are broader

and/or other reasons why the claims are patentable. In addition, Applicant traverses the statement to the extent that it makes reference to a "method step of measuring." Claim 14 does not use the word "step" and so the claim should not be interpreted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph.

CONCLUSION

In view of the arguments above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims 14-20 are in condition for allowance and seek an early allowance thereof. If for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorneys at (312) 321-4200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J.C. Freeman", is written over a horizontal line.

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